

# THE STARS AND STRIPES

## MEDITERRANEAN

Vol. 1, No. 51, Tuesday, August 8, 1944

Printed in Italy

TWO LIRE

### ITALIAN PATRIOTS' ACTION



Organized Italian patriot units met South African troops of the British 8th Army entering the outskirts of Florence. Here, Italian partisans are engaging Germans and Fascist snipers from a street corner in the southern section of the city. (Photo through PWB)

### Enemy Resistance Slows Offensive On Russian Front

LONDON, Aug. 7—German resistance to the great Russian summer offensive was reported today to have stiffened all along the Eastern front from the Carpathian foothills to the Baltic sea and Moscow correspondents reported the opposing armies locked in grim battles.

German reserves were pouring into East Prussia and the Luftwaffe was reported operating in great strength over the frontier. The German News Agency said all available civilians in East Prussia had been conscripted to dig fortifications behind the border.

A Berlin commentator, however, admitted that German lines had been pushed back by the Russians near the East Prussian frontier and a London Times correspondent said Russian artillery and air forces were engaged in preliminary softening up of the Nazis' main defenses.

The prizes at stake in the battles are great. In the north two trapped German armies are faced with annihilation. In the center the Polish capital of Warsaw remains under siege. About 110 miles to the south, Red Army troops are pushing toward Cracow and beyond that Silesia, Germany's industrial center.

The greatest gains in yesterday's fighting were registered in the north where Russian forces continued their sweep west through Latvia and in the far south where the capture of the Ukrainian town of Drohobycz deepened the Red Army's bulge to the Carpathian foothills.

Marshal Joseph Stalin, announcing the capture of Drohobycz in an order of the day last night, cited Colonel General Petrov as responsible for the new gains. It was the first time Petrov's name had been mentioned in connection with this front and indicated that he had taken over command of the drive to the Carpathians while Marshal Ivan Konev, at the extreme left flank of the Ukrainian front, pushes on toward Cracow.

That a break in the current deadlock is imminent was indicated by a German military commentator who said "thousands of German soldiers now fighting at the approaches to East Prussia are possessed by a feeling of abysmal tiredness. They are unable to think and their only preoccupation is to find a bed to sleep. These men are overtired after having been pressed

(Continued on page 8)

### Gen. DeWitt Takes Gen. McNair's Post

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7—Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt, former commandant of the Western Defense Command, has been ordered to the European theater to replace Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, who was killed by an American bomb on the Normandy front. The War Department did not disclose DeWitt's new assignment.

General DeWitt served as commandant of the Army and Navy Staff College here since he was relieved last year as Commanding General of the Western Defense Command and the Fourth Army. His three years on the coast were highlighted by his direction of the evacuation of Japanese nationals.

### Philly's Transport Partially Resumes

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7—The strike of Philadelphia transit workers ended today as the federal government went ahead with plans to prosecute the strike leaders and determine by grand jury investigation whether a criminal conspiracy caused the walkout which crippled production for almost a week.

The strike began to crack after the Army told strikers to return to work or lose their jobs for the duration, but it was not until early yesterday that subway, elevated train and trolley service took on any semblance of normalcy.

When James H. McMenamin, spokesman for the strikers, reported to take out a subway train he was notified by the company he was dismissed. McMenamin and three others were arrested Saturday night on warrants authorized by United States Attorney Gerald A. Gleason, after an investigation by the Justice Department and FBI.

### Barkley Wins Easily In Senate Balloting

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Aug. 7—Senate majority leader Alben W. Barkley of Paducah decisively defeated six opponents to win the Democratic nomination for the Senate for the fourth time. Reports from three-fourths of the precincts gave Barkley 76,517 votes against 2,218 for his nearest competitor, L. Boone Hamilton of Frankfort.

### 8th Contacts Nazis North Of The Arno; Clears South Bank

ADVANCED ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Aug. 7—Although German forces of Field Marshal Albert Kesselring are expected to offer strong resistance to any 8th Army attempts to cross the Arno River east and west of Florence, there is no need for the historic city itself to become a battlefield, it was stated here today.

South African troops were reported in contact with the enemy on the north bank of the Arno in the city of Florence and German guns were shelling Allied-held positions in the lower part of the city south of the river.

Eighth Army troops were said to have cleared the south bank of the Arno from a point three miles east of Florence to Montelupo, 12 miles to the west of the great art center, with the exception of small pockets of resistance northeast of Montelupo and south of Signa.

Sporadic artillery and mortar fire characterized activity in the 5th Army sector yesterday where several enemy gun positions were neutralized by 5th Army fire. The Krauts were observed to be using mule pack trains on the western slopes of Monte Pisano, east of Pisa.

Polish troops continued to push ahead slowly in the Adriatic sector of the front and advanced one mile beyond the captured port of Senigallia.

It was announced that 50,000 prisoners had been taken by the Allied armies between Cassino and Florence.

### 'Spike Bombs' Crushed Nips Out Of Myitkyina

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7—U. S. Army bombers employed "spike bombs" to help blast the Japs out of Myitkyina, northern Burma keypoint, the War Department disclosed today.

The bombs are 100-pounders with axle-like spikes two feet long. When dropped by low-flying bombers the spikes stick in at first as the charges explode. The Germans used showers of spike bombs in the bombing of American divisional headquarters in the battle of El Guettar in North Africa in the spring of 1943. The Americans began roofing their foxholes because of them.

## Armored Columns Cut Toward Paris

### Wehrmacht Garrisons Trapped In Brittany Surrendering In Wholesale Numbers

LONDON, Aug. 7—With Brittany completely sealed off and locked-in German garrisons there surrendering in enormous clumps, American armored columns churned eastward today in a race for the heart of France, advancing toward Paris on a 45-mile front along two main highways.

Five American spearheads smashed east across the Mayenne River line, and latest front-line dispatches said American tanks

were approaching Le Mans, 45 miles east of captured Laval. Le Mans, a junction of five major highways, is 130 miles southwest of Paris—about the distance from Washington to Philadelphia.

Reuters reported that with the apparent loss of the north-south Mayenne River line, the Germans had little hope of establishing a front anywhere west of the vertical Alencon-Le Mans line, 30 miles nearer Paris.

Meanwhile, in the Brest peninsula, Yank infantrymen swept in behind the whirlwind advance of their armored forces to mop up scattered pockets of resistance, but the only determined resistance was at the prize port of Brest and in front of St. Malo, another port, on the northeastern corner of the peninsula.

At the same time British and Canadian troops south of Caen pinned down the bulk of German armor in heavy fighting which gave powerful leverage to the mighty swing of the whole Allied front toward Paris. British infantrymen knifed across the Orne River on a two-mile front above Thury-Harcourt, while other units captured the town of Vire, a junction of three highways 37 miles southwest of Caen.

The fighting around Caen was slow, but steady progress was reported. The crossing of the Orne was forced more than five miles behind Marshal Erwin Rommel's May sur Orne-Rocquancourt line.

One crossing was made in (Continued on page 8)

### Gen. Nelson M. Walker Killed In Normandy

LONDON, Aug. 7—Brig. Gen. Nelson M. Walker, assistant commander of a U. S. Infantry Division, was killed while personally leading an assault on a German machine gun position.

General Walker has been recommended for a posthumous Distinguished Service Cross. He recently received the Legion of Merit for his work in the Plans and Training Section, Washington.

## Award On Spot Handed P-38 Pilot For Shuttle Feat

MAAF HEADQUARTERS, Aug. 7—The extraordinary rescue of a fellow fighter pilot forced to crash land in a Rumanian pasture while on a shuttle mission to Russia Friday brought a spot award of a Silver Star for gallantry in action yesterday to Flight Officer Richard T. Andrews, Portland, Ore., when he landed in Italy on his return. The award was presented personally by Maj. Gen. Nathan F. Twining, commanding general of the 15th AAF who had been informed of the incident by radio from Russia.

The 20-year-old pilot, with ten combat missions to his credit, landed his P-38 on a furrowed plot deep in enemy territory and picked up 1st Lt. Richard E. Willsie, 23, Long Beach, Calif., who had made an emergency landing with his left engine shot out by ground fire and his right engine streaming coolant.

As other P-38s circled above to provide cover, Andrews swooped in, made a couple of passes over

the pasture, and set his plane down. He threw out his parachute and helped Willsie climb into the single-seated cockpit. The rescued pilot, sitting on Andrews' lap, lifted the plane from the soggy ground after a short run and flew for two and a half hours to the American base in Russia. Ground crew personnel gasped when they saw the 190-pound Willsie climb from the cockpit and then be followed by the 160-pound Andrews who had served as a co-pilot.

Andrews, who had never flown a combat ship in the United States, learned to fly his Lightning in Italy from veteran combat flyers.

"I got the idea from them," he said.

Capt. James S. Varnell, Jr., Charleston, Tenn., one of the pilots witnessing the rescue, said it was one of the bravest things he had ever seen. "Andrews landed in a field near enemy positions through a lot of flak and took out his parachute to make room for Willsie."



## Russians Travel Broad Vistula Road To Reich

Russian troops, sweeping west across the Vistula River in Poland toward Silesia and southeastern Germany, are following a well-worn path of armies.

The Vistula, running from Cracow in the south to Warsaw in its middle region, then on to Danzig, is one of history's great rivers.

More than 700 years ago the Vistula came into prominence when the successors to Genghis Khan appeared at its headwaters and drove west, sweeping everything before them. In the 13th Century, too, the German people made their first great lunge east and north.

The Teutonic knights pushed their harsh conquest all the way to the Baltic. By the 14th Century they had tightened their grip in that area and the Vistula was a German river for its last 100 miles to the sea.

Casimir of Poland gnawed away at the Teutonic order, however, and in 1466 a peace treaty was signed which gave Poland a corridor to the sea along the line of the Vistula and for the first time, European maps showed what is now East Prussia split from the rest of Germany.

Napoleon's armies crossed the Vistula four times in all and it formed part of the southern boundary of Napoleon's grand duchy of Warsaw. In 1807, he crossed the river at Warsaw to defeat the Russians at Friedland, returning the same year. In 1812, the French armies passed the Vistula above Warsaw on their way to Moscow. Beaten, their numbers reduced by thousands, these same armies crossed the river at several points on their return home.

Early in World War I, the Germans came to the Vistula to capture Warsaw, then a Russian supply dump. It remained in German hands until the peace made the city the capital of re-established Poland.

Today the broad river marks a high point in World War II, as Marshal Joseph Stalin's armies follow the broad highway that brings them hourly closer to the Reich.

## Champagne Corks Pop In Yanks' OP Villa

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—Capt. Dean Chappell, Jackson, Mich., and his forward observation crew recently selected a villa on a hill top for an OP, not realizing the luxuries it contained.

The big surprise came when the artillery captain had perched himself in a cupola on top of the building to begin directing fire. A butler suddenly appeared and said the staff of servants were back to take care of the observation crew.

That night they sat down to dinner at a table bedecked with white linen, sterling silver, burning tapers and a floral center piece. The butler then produced some rare vintage champagne and cognac.

## Another Kelly

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 7—Another fighting Kelly joined the Army, 19-year-old Edward, brother of famous T-Sgt. Charles Kelly. He is the seventh in the family to don khaki. Eddie, formerly a merchant marine, passed the draft test and left for Cumberland, Pa. Other Kelly's in the Army: Frank, Eugene, George, James and John.

## Looney Makes Clippers Work But It Takes A Little Time

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, Aug. 7—Lt. Tom Scully, Winchester, Va., looked out of the OP at the Kraut lines some 2,000 yards away and bellowed: "What's all this baloney about this guy Sturdevant being the only chap in the 5th Army Theater to use electric hair clippers in a combat area?"

The lieutenant, calmed down by his buddies, explained he was referring to a story in The Stars and Stripes of Thursday, Aug. 3, which told of Cpl. Raymond Sturdevant, Adrian, Mich., who pinch hit as a barber for his artillery battery, using electric hair clippers in his business.

A shell from a 155 whistled by on its way to the German lines. It might even have been from Cpl. Sturdevant's outfit.

Lt. Scully walked over to his musette bag and pulled out an electric razor and a 110-volt radio battery.

"See this," he says. "It cuts hair. I shave with it every day."

With that, he hooked the razor

## So Pierre Laval Took The 50,000 Clams

NEW YORK, Aug. 7—Fifty thousand dollars, which "financial espionage" agents say belong to Pierre Laval, have been sent to Argentina through Spanish banks for safekeeping, Pertinax reported in the New York Times today. Laval's funds have been moving towards safety for two years through Spanish channels, said the report.

## Brittany Control Strategic Victory

Once conquered, the Brittany Peninsula in France may prove one of the decisive strategic victories of World War II. With the peninsula cleared of Germans, not only will the Allies have access to the great ports of Brest, Lorient and St. Nazaire, they will have opened the Bay of Biscay to Allied shipping.

If the bay becomes a safe lane for Allied commerce, huge quantities of supplies necessary to maintain the forward momentum of the Allied drive can be brought to the ports fronting the Bay.

Thus, it will eliminate the long water route from America, around the northern tip of Ireland to east coast British ports. Once this was necessary because the Luftwaffe, based at airfields on the peninsula forced shipping away from the Bay and neutralized to a large extent the English ports of Plymouth and Portsmouth. With Allied planes on former Luftwaffe sites, shipping through the bay to French ports can be given all the air protection needed.

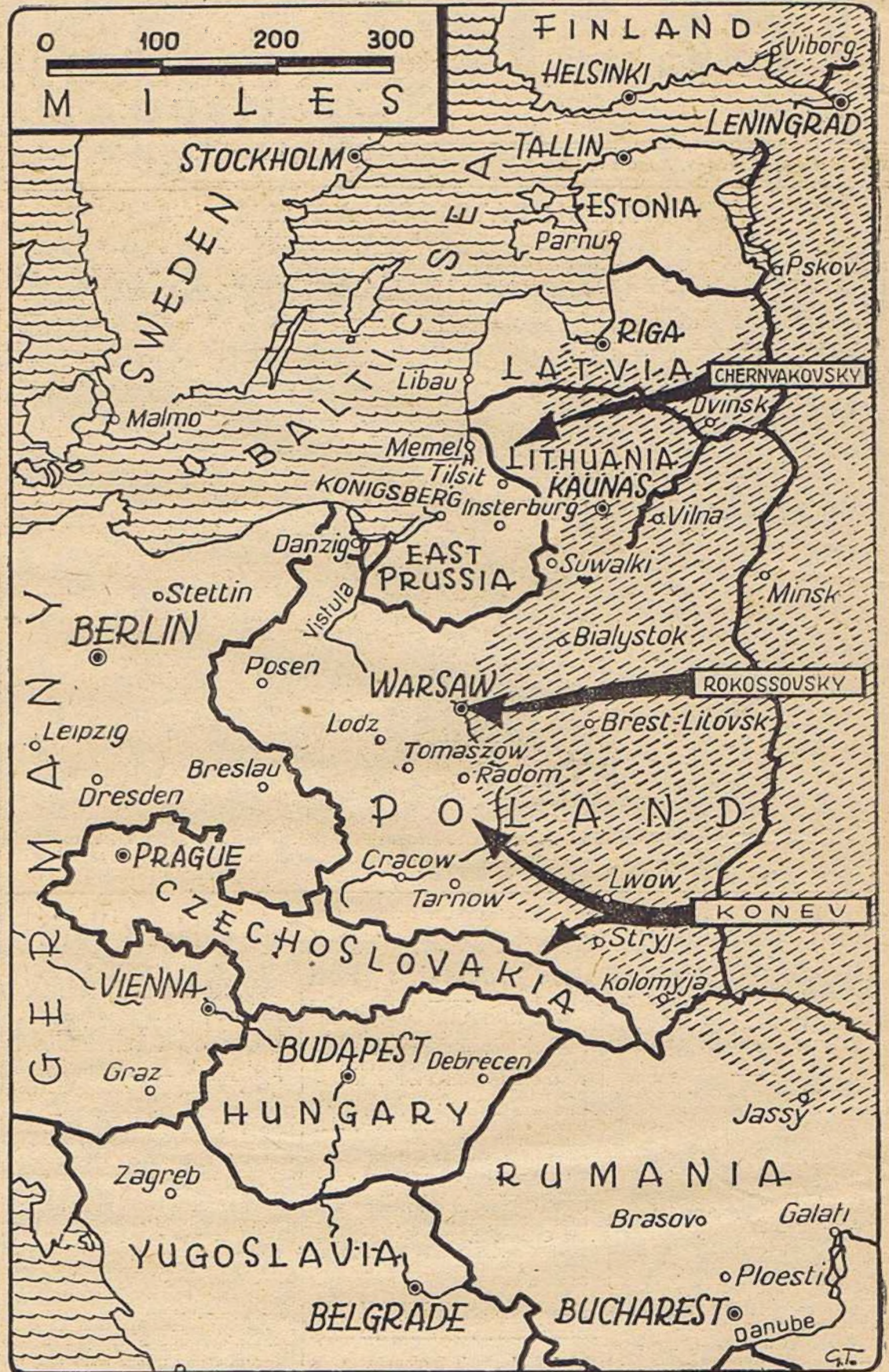
Brest, great port of Brittany and formerly one of France's great naval bases, came into prominence in World War I when it was used as the base for American operations in France. The port has an enormous land-locked bay and the harbor can be used at any tide. More than 4,000 tons of general cargo can be unloaded every day and almost every quay can be reached by truck.

Isolation of St. Nazaire would be a body blow to Adolf Hitler's U-boat campaign. The port is the great base for Nazi submarines operating in the Atlantic. Smaller U-boat pens are located at Lorient.

A British staff officer, commenting today on the almost certain capture of these ports by the Allies, said from a naval standpoint it represented a "major disaster for Germany." Loss of these facilities, the officer added, "will completely upset his naval strategy and cause it to be reoriented."

—E. H.

## RUSSIANS OUTGUESS NAZI COMMAND



Decisive battles of the war are in the making on the long plain that funnels from Minsk to Berlin. Here is where the Wehrmacht's Armageddon is taking place.

Short weeks ago Russian armies stood silent, waiting to attack as German generals fidgeted under the suicidal orders of Adolf Hitler. Unable to withdraw while there was yet time, the German High Command prepared to meet the attack which, they guessed, would come in the direction of Lwow.

The Russians struck at Minsk, once defended by the Nazis successfully. By the time the Germans pulled their reserves up from the south Minsk had been lost, and Marshal Ivan Konev struck in the south. The German front was then in a state of disorganization from which it has never recovered.

From Riga to the Carpathians, Soviet troops are brushing aside desperate Nazi rearguards. From East Prussia to Cracow, Nazi commanders are trying to withdraw fast enough, and in sufficient strength to reorganize an army capable of standing and fighting.

The German problem is to find time, by giving up territory; the Russian solution is to take territory fast enough and to give the Germans no time. The Germans must withdraw quickly enough to reform their armies at some point where the front is short enough and the terrain favorable enough to permit a stand against the superior Soviet Armies.

Even if Field Marshal Heinz Guderian is able to salvage enough of his troops to make a stand, his choice of battlefields

is limited. Between the Vistula and Berlin there is no territory capable of stopping the troops that have raced from Vitebsk. Only in the wooded marshland along the southern edge of East Prussia is there any position at all favorable for defense.

In East Prussia, on German soil, the Red Army can no longer rely on the support of Partisans. East Prussia is as familiar to German officers as Gettysburg is to West Pointers. The battles of the Masurian lakes rank with the campaigns of Frederick the Great as classic examples of Prussian strategy. There, in the homeland of the Teutonic knights, Hindenburg turned back the Tsar's armies in the last war.

The war the Nazis began with a whoop and a holler may end with a squeal, as small groups of supermen separated from their commands take to the hills.

## Hitler Calls For 'Blind Confidence'

LONDON, Aug. 7—The German News Agency today quoted Adolf Hitler as calling for "blind confidence and faithful collaboration" in his leadership.

The agency said Hitler had told a conference of Reich leaders and gauleiters in Berlin that he was "not afraid of the fight against our exterior enemies. All I need is the conviction that in our rear there is absolute security, blind confidence and faithful collaboration."

Earlier in his speech, Hitler referred to the attempt on his life July 20 and the continuing purge

of high-ranking officers from the German army. "Traitors have continually sabotaged the fight of the nation," Hitler said, "not only since 1941, but ever since the seizure of power by the National Socialists. The clique, though small, was considerable in influence."

The agency also declared that the German military circles responsible for the attack on Hitler had managed to persuade Benito Mussolini to go to Germany a few days earlier than he had planned in an effort to finish off both men in one stroke.

As the Berlin conference was in progress, a meeting of the Free German Committee in Russia was attended by eight of the Nazi generals recently captured on the central Russian front. General von Seidelitz, the committee's vice president, announced that all generals would become members.

A United Press report stated that prisoners taken in France declared their commanders had been taken to Paris to testify in connection with Hitler's investigation into the movement against him.



# Ernie Pyle's Popularity Soars; In Election He'd Be Walkaway

## Report On Home Front Incomplete Without Tale Of Ernie

By Sgt. JACK FOISIE  
Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK—Any report on the home front would be incomplete without the meteoric success story of Ernie Pyle.

His fame has increased to such proportions that the slight, wiry, war correspondent could run for president and stand a fair chance of being elected, say some observers of public opinion.

When Pyle left for England in preparation for the invasion of France, he seemingly was at the pinnacle of popularity. Ernie himself feared that war in France would be the same as war in Italy, and "I'm tired of writing about war."

### SAME IN NORMANDY

Presumably, war is the same in Normandy, and the man who has written a 1,000-word six-day-a-week column almost without a break since 1935 is very tired of writing. Yet some of his reports from France, especially his description of the beaches after the battle had passed inland, have surmounted his previous efforts, so far as the readers of Pyle are concerned.

Sen. James J. Davis (R., Pa.), got up on the floor of the Senate and suggested in no uncertain terms that every man and woman in America should read Ernie Pyle, a suggestion upon which the 310 papers carrying his column quickly capitalized.

Time Magazine, in a recent issue, devoted the cover and almost three pages to the 44-year-old friend of the GIs. Numerous press and publicity groups have honored him with awards, all of which have had to be accepted in absentia.

His health and his feelings are as much news as President Roosevelt's. Most papers have thrown away the standard column heading and are now running it under news headlines such as: "Pyle Shivering in Four Sweaters."

### JOINED INFANTRY

Recently he accompanied an infantry company assigned to clean out a Nazi pocket in Normandy. The New York World Telegram considered his dispatches so vivid they ran them eight columns across the top of page one, with such dramatic headlines as: "Ernie Pyle Crosses Zone of Fire—Alone!"

Before Pyle had completed his front-line venture, some 12,255,000 readers just about had nervous prostration. To many, the man from Indiana has become symbolic of all the trials and tribulations, the fears and the hopes of their own people overseas. Pyle probably has more "mothers" than any other service man in the world. His friends reported from Normandy that Pyle receives all sorts of gifts,

## THE ROVING REPORTER



Living in France like a GI, columnist Ernie Pyle takes a few minutes off, sitting in his long underwear, to pay attention to his aching feet.

from goodluck charms to huge fruit cakes and knitted wristlets.

And he receives more than any GI. Most of it, sent to him in care of a local paper, winds up in Washington on the desk of Lee Miller, managing editor of the Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, who calls himself "vice president in charge of Ernie Pyle."

Such is Pyle's fame that a letter from Cincinnati addressed "Ernie Pyle, Finest Hotel in London" was accordingly delivered—not to the hotel, however, but to a Normandy camp where at the moment of delivery Ernie painstakingly was mending his only pair of khaki pants by candlelight.

Lester Cowan, producing the movie "GI Joe," based on Ernest Taylor Pyle's "Here Is Your War," has yet to announce who will play the great character. Inside track now goes to Capt. Burgess Meredith, although the rumors also include Jimmy Gleason and Gary Cooper.

### HOLLYWOOD ADVISORS

There have been a variety of technical advisers to see that Hollywood gives both the infantryman and Pyle a square deal. One of them, Chris Cunningham, United Press correspondent in the Mediterranean for a long time, writes that not only Pyle but other correspondents who covered the African and Italian campaigns are going to be portrayed or play themselves in the picture. From their dispatches will be drawn a composite movie picture of the real GI Joe.

A new book by Pyle, entitled "Brave Men," will be published in October and will include stories of the Italian campaign and the Normandy invasion.

There is only one threatening blot to Pyle's success, which has been termed one of the "phenomenons" of the war. That is the possibility of his being killed in action.

Ernie himself admits that as a result of being so often in the presence of death he himself has begun to worry. It is evident in some of his writings that he feels his law of averages is running out.

Ordinarily a soldier who gets like

that is granted a good long rest. But Ernie, according to his friends, feels that he is a part of war and war is a part of him now, and that there can be no quitting.

So as Time Magazine puts it:

"With the premonition of death that haunts him now, Ernie Pyle is not doing much personal post-war planning. But if he lives to resume his U. S. roving, as both he and his wife hope to do, he will be one man with a future clearly cut out for him. Everywhere he goes he will find old friends of the foxholes, and it will be his job to report to the nation how justly and successfully they are being received back into civilian life, how they feel about the America they have come back to, what they think of the way the people who stayed home are carrying on the fight for lasting peace and freedom which they began."

"Thus, in his unique way, he is almost sure to be a sort of national conscience. He may be that even if he is killed in battle. For if Ernie Pyle should die tomorrow, as well he may, it would still be a long time before Americans forgot Ernie Pyle's war."

## Honor Medal Winner Tries Chow At Home

ANKNOA, Minn., Aug. 7—Pfc. Richard Keith Sorenson, one of two living marines with the Congressional Medal of Honor, held a press conference today to the accompaniment of cinnamon-pecan rolls homebaked by his mother. He quietly partook of the first of his mother's cooking since leaving home on Memorial Day, 1943.

"Ricky," who will be 20 on Aug. 26, won the medal for throwing himself on a grenade and saving five comrades.

## Refugee Centers Model For Future

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7—The story of six refugee camps in the Middle East, operated by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, is being considered the tipoff on what will be staged in western Europe when it is liberated.

The camps, sheltering 54,000 Greeks and Yugoslavs, are set up in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Except for their cleanliness and the exclusive use of tents, the camps closely resemble gigantic third-rate American tourist camps.

Except for wind and sandstorms, the climate is comfortable and the refugees' morale is kept up by household duties, camp maintenance, handicraft and schools.

First UNRRA venture, the camps have individual self-government and community stores and canteens. Clothing, bedding, food and hospital care are free. Fortunately, years of starvation and mistreatment have not damaged the refugees' health as much as was feared.

The camps have now reached the saturation point, but no new camps are proposed, because of the optimistic views taken toward a quick end to the war. Also, refugees from three of the camps will soon arrive in the U. S. for a home at Fort Ontario, Oswego, N. Y.—a strictly U. S. project in which it is doubtful that the UNRRA will figure.

The estimated cost of the camps is 9,600,000 dollars, excluding administrative expenses. They are considered valuable blueprints for future shelters to be established in every European country for the handling of displaced persons.

## Texas 'Wet' Sections Overcome Dry Threats

DALLAS, Texas, Aug. 7—The cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, last strongholds of wet forces in north Texas, today overcame strong dry threats in county-wide local option elections, according to the Associated Press.

Unofficial returns gave the wet vote almost a two to one lead in Dallas County, while in Starrat County legal control of liquor was already a three to two vote.

## Officer Praises Job On Soldier Ballots After Theater Tour

ROME, Aug. 7—Upon returning from visits to units throughout the theater, Lt. Col. M. W. Cresap, NA-TOSA soldier voting officer, commented on the generally thorough job which had been done in giving out application cards for state ballots to military personnel and eligible citizens who desire to cast a vote in the November elections. He stated that front-line units, even under trying conditions, are seeing to it that men in their outfits who want to vote get a chance to do so.

Colonel Cresap pointed out that many units are asking men to initial rosters, indicating that they received a card or don't want one. These records are for the purpose of making sure that everyone gets a card who desires it. No person has to accept a card or fill it out unless he wants to.

### NO ONE MISSED

The job of unit voting officers is to make sure that no one is missed in the distribution of cards. In some cases, it may be necessary to make a second check to be sure everybody wanting to vote has been covered. Any officers or men who want cards and have not received them should get in touch with the voting officer of their unit.

Colonel Cresap pointed out that 20 states will accept the Federal ballot (California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Vermont and Washington). The Federal ballot can be used by men from these states, who certify that they have applied for a state ballot before Sept. 1 and have not received it by Oct. 1. No one can vote by Federal ballot who has not applied for a state ballot.

### RESTRICTIONS EXPLAINED

There are indications, said Colonel Cresap, that the provisions of the Federal Voting Law regarding the "dissemination of political propaganda" are misunderstood in some cases. The restrictions in the law apply only to the Army and those who act for it. There is no restriction on political material which is obtained individually by any member of the army. "Any officer or enlisted individual may purchase or receive any book, newspaper, magazine or any political material he desires. The effect of the law is only on the dissemination by agencies of the Army of the political material of the prohibited kind."

## Forum Discussion

ROME, Aug. 7—An "Allied Christian Forum" will be held at 2000 hours Wednesday at St. Paul's American Church, Via Nazionale and Via Napoli.

Purpose of the forum is to bring together Protestants of the Allied Nations to discuss current topics of international interest.

## Tobacco Auction Going After Delay On Price

ATLANTA, Aug. 7—Georgia and Florida tobacco growers, beaten in a week-long battle for a two-cent increase in announced ceiling prices, this week put cigarette-type tobacco on market floors for auction.

Sales of 1944 flue-cured leaf had been scheduled to start a week ago but 22 Georgia markets were ordered to remain closed by the State Department of Agriculture pending effort to obtain higher ceiling prices. Two Florida markets also remained closed.

Tobacco farmers from Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina and Virginia contended at OPA hearings in Washington that increased labor costs made higher prices necessary. The OPA, fixing a ceiling at 39 cents per pound for untied and 43 and one-half cents for tied tobacco, declared it had not been given facts to prove that the announced ceilings would be unprofitable.

## Wooden Barges OK

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7—Wooden tank barges "gave an excellent account of themselves" in the invasion of Normandy, the Office of Defense Transportation revealed today. A total of 269 of these wooden barges have been built for wartime traffic, it was said.

## Missourians Get Dope On Their Battleship

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Aug. 7—Details of the Battleship Missouri, the world's largest, were revealed today by Rep. Marion Bennett (R., Mo.), who was aboard during her trial cruise.

He said: "It has 18 decks, seven of them beneath the water. It carries several airplanes and has a blimp overhead for protection. It has a crew of 2,700 men."

## ODD ITEMS FROM HOME

# Lost Subway, Pup, Father Divine

NEW YORK—A wayward subway train got lost yesterday. Eighty early bird passengers—service men and war workers—were badly confused when they began reading station names on the West Side line instead of the East Side.

Once the train started on its wrong course, caused by a switching error, nothing could be done until it reached a station with a switch-back platform.

The indignant riders finally got back to their starting point, delayed half an hour.

WASHINGTON—The bow of the destroyer Murphy saw action for the first time in the invasion of Normandy, but it was the third battle for her stern.

The Murphy, vet of invasions of North Africa and Sicily, split in two in a collision last October. The bow sank, the stern was saved. She was fitted with a new bow in time to screen troops moving into Europe.

TOMAHAWK, Wis.—A small white dog named Pet had ended nine years of independent wealth and has gone where all small white dogs go, leaving an estate



HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—Pamela Gordon, daughter of actress Gertrude Lawrence, has just finished a successful screen test for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Her first role will be in "Winged Victory."

of 30,000 dollars earmarked for the care of less fortunate pooches. In 1935 Miss Margaret McDermott of Chicago left her entire estate to the dog, with a directive that at the pet's death the untouchable principal of 30,000 dol-

lars be turned over to the anti-cruelty society.

PHILADELPHIA—Federal Judge J. Cullen Ganev went half-way with two brothers, aged 63 and 65, on their plea for mercy in sentencing them for selling meat in excess of ceiling prices.

He said he would free one, but the other would have to serve a jail term.

"I'll serve the jail sentence," said Charles E. Pusey, the younger brother, and the judge suspended Harrison J. Pusey's sentence. Both prisoners then paid 250-dollar fines and Charles went off to jail.

When the destroyer Grady is launched on Aug. 18, the U. S. Navy will have 1,149 fighting ships in the service. Four years ago the total was 383. The figures don't include landing craft. The Navy also has 20 times as many planes as it had in July, 1940—35,000 as compared with 1,744.

PINE BROOK, N. J.—Followers of Father Divine, preparing the luxurious, recent-purchased Sunset Rest resort for its opening early in August as a "Heaven" for members of the cult, have erected a sign greeting visitors inside the gate. It says: "Peace—No Smoking."



## THE STARS AND STRIPES (Mediterranean)

Daily newspaper of the U. S. Armed Forces published Mondays through Saturdays for troops in Italy.

Publications Officer, Maj. Robert Neville; Executive Officer, Maj. Robert J. Christenson; Editor, Lt. Ed Hill; Treasurer, W.O. (J.G.) Earl D. Erickson. Office: 152 Via del Tritone, in the Il Messaggero building, Rome. Telephones: Maj. Neville, 478536; Maj. Christenson, 478110; Editorial, 478,295, 478996; Circulation, 478640.

Acknowledgment is made of the editorial services supplied by the United Nations News Service and the Army News Service.

The Stars and Stripes is printed at the plant of Il Messaggero, 152 Via del Tritone, Rome.

Vol. 1, No. 51

Tuesday, August 8, 1944

Managing Editor  
News Editor  
Sports Editor

Staff: Sgts John M. Willig, Bill Mauldin, Al Kohn, Don Williams, Stanley Meltzoff, Grayson B. Tewksbury, Len Smith, Ray Reynolds, Robert B. McIntyre, Joe Bally, Wade Jones, William Gilham, Bob Fleisher, Cpl. Bob Meyer, Pvt. Edmund Hogan, George Dorsey, John Welsh, III.

## -- MAIL CALL --

### Pisa

Dear Editor:

While we were listening to a CBS news broadcast, we were filled with contempt for the way the campaign against Pisa is being conducted.

We quote the commentator's own words: "We haven't been using artillery against Pisa because we might destroy historical monuments."

We would like to know if the leaning tower of Pisa and all the other art treasures in the city is worth more than the lives of our soldiers?

The GIs are fighting this war, and risking their lives, not the people back in the States.

Ask one mother whose son has died while fighting this war. Is the tower of Pisa worth more to her, or the life of her son?

Are we fighting this war to preserve historical monuments, or to save as many of our boys as we can? I guess a lot of other GIs will agree with us.

—Pvt. Sidney D. Keller  
T-5 Umberto Bazzanella  
Pvt. Thomas Kromer  
Pvt. Leonard Danna

### Doc Wheeler

Dear Editor:

To members of the cast of USO Show 249 (Doc Wheeler and all colored cast) and to those who were responsible for bringing this show to us on Corsica, we offer our salute for a grand Eve of Entertainment.

For 26 months, between work periods, we've constantly pictured the American Negro Woman, and dreamed of the moment when we would again see her. Now after having seen and heard our own people we are renewed with a mental state of mind whose value could not be estimated.

We thank Miss Sandra Lee for her wonderful songs that seemed to touch each of us in that sentimental spot, and her singing shall long echo in our memory, if not forever in our heart.

—T-5 C. C. Whiteside  
and 16 others

### Take It Away

Dear Editor:

Recently there have appeared in Mail Call claims of several chowhounds to some sort of gourmandizing championship.

I'll not contest these claims, because, as a trenchman, I'm strictly a has-been. However, some years ago, while still a recruit and not yet rid of my growing pains, I performed gastronomic feats which with the passing of the years, and my appetite, I've come to regard as prodigious.

Following is a typical Sunday morning breakfast: 32 plate size (one half inch thick) hot cakes with approximately one pound of butter and two pitchers of honey; one platter of country sausage; six bananas and five bottles of milk.

—Sgt. Bill Hastie

### Old Acquaintances

Dear Editor:

I just got through reading in today's edition of The Stars and Stripes under "Flashes from the Italian Front" about a former German who found a letter of one of his neighbors on a battlefield.

I can go him one better than that. Being a "Jerry" myself, (I left Stuttgart, Germany, in November 1939), I actually met a guy I knew, down at Cassino. The surprise was great on both sides. He used to be quite a Nazi back in Germany, but when he was brought to me as a prisoner, he blamed Hitler for getting captured.

—Pfc. Rudy F. Mayer

### Bath Unit

Dear Editor:

A few days ago, we read in the Stars and Stripes about the service of a QM sterilization bath unit. Well, our detachment doesn't think much of their service. There are two instances of being refused a bath.

One was that it was near lunch time and the boys were leaving for chow. Another, it was after five PM and they could not let us take one then. Do you call that service?

We are also a QM unit. We operate 24 hours a day and on a seven day basis. Do you think that we turn down customers just because it is chow time or five o'clock. I should say not!

The only time that service troops are free to take a bath is when they can get away. Therefore, the only time that we can possibly bathe is at noon, or after work. I think other service troops will agree with me.

—Cpl. R. Cohen

### pH

Dear Editor:

Re: Stars and Stripes article "20,000 drinks—all on the House" in July 27th issue: If Cpl. Bodle—or anybody else—should be interested, pH is the measure of the acidity or alkalinity of a liquid.

Incidentally, it is spelled pH and not Ph, as Stars and Stripes had it.

—Pvt. I. S. Livney

Pvt. Livney, who in civilian life is a water filtration engineer, should know—Editor.

## When In Rome —Today—

### STAGE

"The Wotnots," ENSA musical comedy at 1830 hours; Argentina Theater, Largo Argentina. No tickets required.

### SCREEN

ARC Movie House: Barberini, Piazza Barberini, 1500, 1700, 1900 hours. "So's Your Uncle." Today only. Officers show 2030 hrs. Admission free. ENSA Supercinema, Via Nazionale and Via Agostino Depretis. Noel Coward's "This Happy Breed." Continuous from 1200 hours. Last showing 2000 hours. Admission free.

### CONCERT

ARC Movie House: Barberini, Piazza Barberini, 2000 hours, Wednesday. Miss Edwina Eustis, mezzo soprano, and Miss Marion Carley, pianist. Popular selections.

### OPERA

Royal Opera House, Via Viminale; Grand Opera Season, Today: "Mephistopheles." Wednesday, August 9, "La Bohème." Thursday, August 10, "Rigoletto." Saturday, August 12, "Aida." Tickets from 25 to 300 lire, obtainable at box office, open daily 0830 to 1800 hours.

### CLUBS

Visit the ARC EM Club, Cassino della Rose. Conducted tours at 0930 hours and 1430 hours plus daily activities. Variety show, 1900 hours.

ARC Officers' Club, Hotel Barberini, Piazza Barberini.

British Officers' Club, "Trocadero," Villa Medici.

Catholic Club for Allied forces; Via della Conciliazione. Tours of Vatican and Rome daily.

Polish Club, open 1300 to 2100 hours, 235 Via Panisperna

### RESTAURANTS

G1 Restaurants open 1130-1430, 1800-2030 hours:

Ristorante Roma, 38 Piazza Poli.

Ristorante Amedeo 17-19 Via Fabio Massimo.

Restaurant for American Officers, Nurses and uniformed guests; open 7 Via Parma.

Ristorante San Carlo, 120 Corso Umberto.

Air Forces Rest Camp Restaurant—Largo Theater Vale, 1100 to 1530 hours.

### EXHIBITS

Polish Exhibit. Customs, History, Art and Army. Popolo di Roma.



Stars and Stripes U. S. Bureau

DES MOINES, Iowa—It's Saturday night but the usually-crowded roads into Iowa's capitol city are quiet and empty.

All you can see at night on the main highway are the tens and tens of thousands of flickering fireflies and the powerful lights on the farm tractors busy reworking some of the drowned-out land, the large black patches contrasting sharply in the huge fields of growing green. Then there are the long deep pools of water in the rutted hollows flanking the roadside.

These black patches and deep pools are all that's left as evidence of last month's stretch of flood and tornadoes, Iowa's worst in 50 years, which caused an estimated soil-building damage of more than 155,000,000 dollars.

But all that is past tense now. The land's replowed and replanted and they still expect to come close to producing the bushels of corn and oats and soy beans they grew last year. In Iowa, too, the farms are still full of chickens and cattle and hogs.

Despite the wind and water seige, the farmers in Iowa are doing all right. They're still making more money during these war years than they ever made in peacetime. But all of them are keeping their fingers crossed because they remember so well the quick crash after World War I.

### Main Worry . . .

Still, that's not their main worry right now; their main worry is their overseas soldier-sons. And their worrying has nothing to do with How-you-gonna-keep-them-down-on-the-farm-after-they've-seen-Parce . . .

The general feeling among farmers, like John Kimberley, is that the soldiers who were born and raised and worked on farms will like nothing better than to come back home to the good earth.

"One of the big reasons the boys will be coming back to their Iowa farms is that they've got more freedom, more good food and fresh air and less monotony than they'd have on a factory job in the big city. In a factory a man is just a cog in a wheel. Out here the farmer is the whole wheel," said Kimberley, who owns 360 acres of Iowa's 25,870,000 acres of crop land.

Other farmers expressed other reasons why they expected their farmer-sons to come back. One of them stressed the fact that machinery had taken much of the drudgery out of the farmer's life and had given him more time.

"The farmer's no longer a hick, no longer a hayseed," they all emphasized.

But none of the farmers thought much of somebody's suggested plan that the government furnish farms for all the returning vets who couldn't find jobs. It just wouldn't work, they all said. The general idea was that you can't just make a farmer out of anybody. Nobody can be a farmer unless he likes to grow things.

### Returning Vets . . .

As if to substantiate the farmers, the State Selective Service Board recently revealed that the bulk of the 25,000 returning Iowa soldiers and sailors, honorably discharged from the service, have gone back to the farm and that there has been no difficulty at all so far in placing the rest.

As for khaki, this town is filled with it, especially MPs. There are probably just as many MPs per square block in Des Moines as in any city in America. But none of the visiting soldiers seem to mind very much because these MPs are the soft, curving kind. Des Moines is still the No. 1 Wac city here in the States.

You can see them in the USO Club where the girls outnumber the men at least ten to one. With the city's young men gone, and only a small sprinkling of soldiers to go around, these Wacs feel the same way a soldier outfit would feel in a no-woman town.

The Wacs aren't the only ones. The whole town is lonely. The women don't like to go out by themselves and the old folks like to sit home nights.

That's why the roads to Des Moines are quiet and empty on Saturday night.

## UP FRONT . . .

By Mauldin



"I'd rather cover th' gun. I won't hafta dry meself wit' a oily rag."

## Have A Rail Junction-- It's On The Allied House

By Sgt. EDGAR CLARK

Staff Correspondent

NAPLES—It's still a long, long way to Berlin and Tokio, but until the Allies get to either burg, they manage to keep themselves and the readers pretty happy with taking key road junctions, and menacing or isolating vital communications centers.

Back in the time when the not-so-smart Queen Marie Antoinette was bending a thought to complaints of her hungry but noisy subjects she made the immortal suggestion that they fill their tummies with cake if bread weren't handy. Today, with a wee-bit weary world hankering for the end, the official Allied communique, which can't yet offer the enemy capitals, has fed their public with more than a tummyful of the next best—key road junctions and vital communications centers.

### ENEMY ARMIES SNAFUED

So important have these places become where railroad trains go clickety-click and highways come together with enthusiasm, that the Allied map follower has been led to believe that the mere capture of this or that unpronounceable whistle-stop has absolutely snafued the German and Jap armies.

Take a look at the recent score of these road junctions and communications centers garnered by the Allies. In Poland and the Baltic states, our doughty Allies, the Russians, who really must have gotten many a bad bunion getting over all those roads and railways that seems

to writhe across their battle area like mattress hairs, have done it again. Yup, they special-ordered-of-the-day through thousands of prisoners and material but not without capturing key road and rail junctions and threatening vital communications centers.

### BIG STUFF IN FRANCE

Not to be outdone, the Anglo-Americans virtually clinched their hold on the immensely important road and rail center of Avranches after rolling through the big communications towns of Lessay and Periers in Normandy. Best news out of Italy was that the Allies had cut the Leghorn-Florence road and rail lifeline at Pontedera and pressed nearer to the inland communications arteries out of Florence.

The reader of the communique announcing the capture of one of these places can almost visualize freight cars by the thousands piling up along the tracks leading back into the enemy rear, tremendous traffic jams along the roads out, with retreating vehicles getting all jammed up with the ones moving forward. Then, sometimes, the junction even has canals and rivers, on which the reader can imagine tugs, barges and ferry-boats whipping up the foam as they try for full speed astern to escape the trap that awaits them downstream.

And it's really nice that we do have the junctions and communications centers to spice up war. How dull it was to read of Alexander marching through Bagdad without the historical communique mentioning that by taking the ancient city he also cut the chariot routes to the east, blocked the camel trains from the west, and put an end to show business on the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

Then there were the Persians who wanted Athens, but weren't smart enough to think of its marathon centers; Hannibal, who took all of northern Italy but forgot that he severed all the nation's land contact with the rest of Europe; and Caesar who crossed the Rubicon and treated the act as just a symbol of not darkening the doors of the hometown.

Just suppose, but not too seriously, that today's war were being fought at home. Imagine the fun of driving the Germans out of Tuxedo Junction, where the Allies would not only get the town but the vital communications center as well. Biggest day though in this dream picture would be the taking of Junction City, Kans.

What those fellows on both sides of the lines, called engineers, who fix up roads and railways anywhere, anyplace for the troops, do about the lack of those vital and strategic and immensely important cross-roads and rail crossings, has little to do with the communique.

## ROLL OF HONOR

Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Roderick, Canton, Ohio, staff officer at AFHQ, has received the Legion of Merit, fourth highest War Department award, for outstanding contributions in the field of military intelligence to the success of the Tunisian and Sicilian campaigns.

T-Sgt. Bernard J. Przybylski, Forestville, N. Y., now holds the Soldier's Medal for heroism displayed on a North African airfield. While taking off in a B-24 two engines cut out causing the bomber to crash, split in two and burn. One of the crew was pinned beneath the wreckage. Sgt. Przybylski rushed to his friend's aid and pulled him to safety. A moment later the plane exploded.

For sticking to his guns in the tail of his B-17 until the tail section was finally shot off, S-Sgt. Louis Munoz, Fresno, Calif., has received the DFC. Sgt. Munoz was last seen parachuting to earth over Austria.



# Service Personnel Runs Gauntlet Of Emotions In Puptent Poetry

## No Word From Her

No word from her—there is no sun  
—and when  
The heat of the battle puts all  
thought to flight  
I live in darkness—lust to kill—but  
then  
Black madness passes — and I  
grope for light.  
What can I write when she's been  
silent long  
I dream of woman; and it is her  
face  
That haunts me endlessly. I must  
be strong  
To conquer doubt and foe in this  
mad race.

No word from her—again there  
comes the fears  
That horrid ills have kept her in  
their clutch  
The tide of battle wanes—I've time  
for tears  
No word, no love—no token new to  
touch.

When last I slept—God . . . That  
was long ago—  
I dreamed of her. Is thought and  
word so pale  
That I can't bridge the gap to let  
her know  
Her words oft drew me from the  
depths of Hell?

Doubt rears its head—is she my  
destined mate  
For whom I'll battle to the dis-  
tant stars  
Or did my marching to the hymn  
of hate  
Ensnare my loins—begat a son for  
Mars.

Flesh of my flesh—blood of my  
blood—I rave  
For Him along cold reason makes  
a stand  
My sanity, my life—I'll strive to  
save  
I lift in silent prayer a shaking  
hand.

—Pfc. Walter J. Mikulak

## Flight "3"

Once a bunch of devilish flies,  
Mostly young and carefree guys,  
Assembled in convention  
My destruction their intention.  
And a more unsuspecting victim,  
Even you couldn't pick him.  
They agreed the time was ripe,  
I was the "target for tonight."

With motors tuned and roaring,  
They took off with perfect soaring,  
Climbed right up to the ceiling  
And buzzed alone with feeling.

Tho' some were untired fliers,  
Most were veteran fighters,  
Of these, Flight "3" the best,  
They were much above the rest.

Their victories were impressive,  
Of luck they'd been excessive.  
And with the Target having sighted  
They took the lead and dived it.

Tho' they knew the day was lost  
Just to show who still was boss,  
They made another Bomb Run,  
A devilish devastating one.

Now they're off in intermission  
And I'm in alternate position,  
While awaiting their next mission  
Scribbled off this composition.

Just to let you know my friend,  
And this warning to extend,  
That of all the "Flights" you'll see,  
The best you'll meet is veteran "3."

—Pfc. Edwin F. Keyser

## Broken Date

(Or She Wouldn't Believe He Was  
O.D.)

Oh, he's as miserable  
As a centipede with bunions,



Because the gal he lately lost  
Really knows her onions.

—Sgt. Anthony M. Chieco

## Transfer

All those who slay  
Kill but the wretched shell  
Encasing life;  
Of mercy, frees the cell  
That it then may  
And death, the knife  
Maintains its way.  
And dwell, serenely well  
Beyond all strife.

—Sgt. C. W. Carroll

## Ambition

If my life were the Rubiyat  
I'd have my wishes three—  
A girl, a book, a jug of wine  
Beneath some woodland tree.  
And if reading is considered  
To be above my class,  
I guess that I would settle  
For my first wish and the last.

—Lt. Joseph C. Sanford

## The Promise At Anzio

In thundering hour when earth  
forsaken seemed  
Of friends, of laughter, of joy and  
love;  
When my lamenting heart did faint  
with grief, I turned  
To pray and talk to my God—  
I found the Peace I sought.

Have I forgotten that fervent  
promise made  
To Him should I be spared the  
death,  
Yet to breathe, to live anew amidst  
things peaceful—  
Always to make manifest for Him  
Those words that He once taught?  
—Cpl. Peter R. Miterko

## Casualty

Last night I died.  
The Latin sun was lingering after  
hours  
And, under me the crushed and  
kindly flowers  
Sang and gave me comfort as I lay.  
We had fought across the Liri all  
the day  
And just at dusk there was a pluck-  
ing at my side.

Last night I cried.  
But not for pain. A man grows  
numb  
To body hurt. I wept to know my  
voice forever dumb.  
How may I now, I wondered to my  
fellow men.  
My hand, my work, my heart, my  
song again?  
How can I speak across the endless  
tides?

For this I cried.  
Last night I loved.  
And with such passion that it  
seemed to be  
That I were one with her and she  
with me  
We who had together lived a  
goodly life  
Had merged again in spite of dis-  
tance, time and strife.  
And now in death our one-ness has  
been proved.  
And, yes, I loved.

Last night I lived.  
Eternity within a flash of flame  
And died again within the same;  
And now I wonder as I look upon  
the earth  
With all its pageantry of lust and  
hate and dearth  
Which mortals have contrived  
By what rate miracle I lived.  
—Capt. F. T. Grant

## Farewell

This is the Alpha and Omega for  
you and I,  
Hold me close in our last goodbye;  
This is the night when our stars  
shall set,  
This is the end for which we have  
met . . .  
Eagles, unfettered, soar away,  
And love shall find another day.  
—Lt. S. Vezmar, ANC

## Edwina Eustis Concert At Red Cross Theater

ROME, Aug. 7 — American sol-  
diers and their British guests will  
be treated to a concert of popular  
selections at the Red Cross Movie  
House Barberini, Piazza Barberini,  
at 8 PM Wednesday. The artists  
will be Edwina Eustis, a mezzo so-  
prano who was leading singer of  
Radio City Music Hall and the radio  
program "Music Hall of the  
Air," and Miss Marian Carley, a  
member of the Columbia Broad-  
casting System staff.

Sticking strictly to popular se-  
lections and semi-classical favorites,  
Misses Eustis and Carley will run  
the gamut from "All the Things  
You Are" to Schubert's "Ave Ma-  
ria." Several spots have been re-  
served for request numbers from  
the audience, and the remainder of  
the bill will include "Because," "Be-  
gin the Beguine," "Loch Lomond,"  
or "Danny Boy," "Lindy Lou,"  
"Habanera," "Rhapsody in Blue,"  
"Oh, What a Beautiful Morning,"  
"Summertime," "Shortnin' Bread,"  
"Indian Love Call," and Malotte's  
"The Lord's Prayer."

The two concert stars were the  
first USO classical music team  
overseas. In eight months they have  
presented almost 200 concerts. They  
have toured Central and North Af-  
rica, Arabia, Egypt, the Persian  
Gulf and they even did a job in  
Turkey.

The selections Misses Eustis and  
Carley have picked for their pro-  
gram Wednesday night have been  
requested most often by men in the  
field and in hospitals.

## STRAIGHT FROM SHOULDER



Sultry, black-haired Ann Miller lets you have it straight from the shoulder in a preview of how she'll look in the new Kay Kyser musical for Columbia.

## Mediterranean Theater Locale Of Many Books

Stars and Stripes U. S. Bureau

NEW YORK—Since the Mediter-  
ranean has been the scene of most  
of the American action in this war,  
the greater number of war books  
to come out to date have had that  
theater as their locale.

Latest in the flow is "A Walk  
in the Sun," by Pvt. Harry Brown,  
27, former member of Yank in  
which he wrote about "Artie  
Greengroin," the fictional Pfc.  
Brown now is a writer for an over-  
seas motion picture project spon-  
sored by the Office of War In-  
formation.

Although not mentioned by name,  
the scene of Brown's short novel  
is Salerno. The story deals with  
an isolated infantry platoon and  
its singular fight inland to take  
a farmhouse and destroy a bridge.

Not mentioned anywhere but  
nevertheless a fact is that Brown  
was not present at Salerno and for  
that matter, had never seen—at  
least not up to the time of Nor-  
mandy—any troops in action. De-  
spite this lack of experience, Brown  
has written a good book.

Brown has captured the dour  
cynical dry GI outlook of a com-  
bat outfit and its fatalistic accep-  
tance of conditions and hardships.  
The dialogue is generally true-to-  
life, with the necessary cleaning  
up of the language not sticking out  
like the proverbial sore thumb.

But Brown shows his inexperience  
when he attempts to deal tac-  
tically with his platoon of infantry.  
Not that he doesn't put them  
through their paces correctly—he  
puts them through too correctly. It

## High School Age Boys Will See War Service

HELENA, Mont., Aug. 7 — Maj.  
Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national  
Selective Service Director, ex-  
pressed the belief here last night  
that all eligible high school boys  
would eventually be in the armed  
services "regardless of whether or  
not the war with Germany is  
ended."

"I can't speak for the Navy or  
War Departments, but in my  
opinion high school youths of  
America who are militarily accept-  
able will see service in the armed  
forces after the war in Europe is  
cleared up," he said.

"There are a lot of doughboys  
and other American soldiers who  
have been in this thing for four  
years. I think they will be wanting  
to come back home."

The general said there was little  
prospect of rapid demobilization.

is evident that Brown learned his  
art of war from the infantry hand-  
books, and has not since learned  
that war is not always fought ac-  
cording to books. His most glaring  
error is in the blowing of whistles  
all the time, as if the platoon were  
still back on the parade grounds at  
Fort Benning.

Other instances are his occasional  
use of formal squad commands and  
his exact pacing of the ordered  
hundred yards from the boat to the  
beach where the platoon first digs  
in. Also, Brown has his veteran  
troops skulking in the grass in fear  
of planes too far off even to identify  
and has the heroic corporal giving  
an order to put out cigarettes—it  
is daylight—for fear the whiff of  
tobacco smoke will draw the sky  
raiders away from the invasion  
fleet and bring them pouncing  
down on the platoon in the woods.

Other literary notes: John Her-  
sey's "A Bell for Adano," out since  
February, has sold 79,000 copies  
and is running about third or  
fourth in the fictional best-seller  
lists. This short novel of the AMG  
in Italy—although in reality the  
basis for material is Sicily, has for  
one of its characters a general who's  
personality sharply resembles that  
of Lt. Gen. George Patton.

A book based on the Sicilian and  
Italian campaign will shortly be  
published by Richard Tregaskis, the  
International News Correspondent.

Not a new book but one of par-  
ticular interest to members of the  
1st Armored Division is "Road to  
Tunis," by David Rame, pen name  
of the British correspondent Ar-  
thur D. Divine. Besides being an  
excellent account of the North Af-  
rican campaign, it is a real tribute  
by an Englishman to the American  
fighting men in general, and to C  
Company of the 701st Tank De-  
stroyer Battalion in particular, with  
whom the author spent most of his  
time while in North Africa.

## GI Barber At Front Blows Customers' Tops

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—While  
cutting hair for his artillery bat-  
talion, Cpl. Joseph H. Murphy,  
Anaconda, Mont., put a new idea  
into practice which barbers back  
home might try.

Fresh towels aren't so plentiful  
when you're in action and brushes  
get very dusty in the field so Cpl.  
Murphy merely dries faces and  
blows away tiny hairs from custom-  
ers' necks with the air compressor  
used for inflating tires.

## Flashes From The Front

PILOTS OF THE SQUADRON who had Col. Phil Cochran, model  
for Milt Caniff's Flip Corkin in Terry and the Pirates, as their squad-  
ron commander, predict a change in the comic strip action very soon.  
Caniff has been using Thunderbolts in his story, the same craft that  
Col. Cochran flew. However, Col. Cochran has switched to P-51  
Mustangs and Corkin is expected to follow suit.

PILOTS OF THE FIGHTING COCK SQUADRON of the 57th  
Fighter Bomber Group swear that S-Sgt. Salvatore Noto, Brooklyn,  
is the world's champion mess sergeant and they've been eating his  
food since El Alamein. Sgt. Noto, who plans to open an eating place  
in New York City after the war, has returned the compliment by in-  
viting every 57th pilot, past, present or future, to a free spread at his  
restaurant-to-be.

IT WAS THIS SAME SGT. NOTO who found his uncle in a town  
near Palermo while looking for a new recipe for spaghetti sauce. Local  
residents directed him to the house of the town's top sauce maker.  
He knocked at the door and nearly collapsed when it was opened by  
his mother's brother.

A THIRD NOTO CLAIM TO FAME comes from a combination  
war bond sales-graduation talk by his niece. The girl gave the story  
of her uncle's 26 months overseas, concluding with the remark that  
he regularly bought war bonds. If he can put up with overseas serv-  
ice and still spare money for bonds, why shouldn't the people back  
home buy bonds, she reasoned. The people who heard her did to the  
tune of several thousand dollars.

JUST IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW IT, in the Air Force lexicon,  
a guy who clanks out is a pilot who had too many close calls. That  
addition to the language was supplied by 1st Lt. William Spairs, South  
Orange, N. J., who stoutly denies that planes orbit an airfield. They  
still circle it. Clabbered up can best be defined by a word that isn't  
printable but it means that everything has gone haywire. A Ger-  
man convoy of trucks, strafed and bombed and aglow with flares  
(burning trucks), is a fair example of something that has been  
clabbered.

HEARING THAT GERMANS were laying mines along the south  
bank of the Arno, Sgt. Abe Gutierrez, Fort Dodge, Iowa, who was "no  
good as a garrison soldier" by his CO's testimony, went to have a look.  
Accompanied by Sgt. Donald Gadbury, also from Fort Dodge, who had  
no business on patrol because he heads a machine gun section, and  
Pvt. John C. Altice, Roanoke, Va., Gutierrez opened up. The Jerries  
ran. In the excitement four scrambled into the Yanks' arms. Two more  
were killed and three wounded. There haven't been any more mines  
laid in that sector.



LEND ME  
YOUR  
EARS

BY JIM BURCHARD

Since he began swinging leather for the entertainment of men and women in uniform, S-Sgt. Joe Louis has appeared before close to a million and one-half GIs.

He hit the million mark during his tour of the States. He boosted this total by 300,000 in England. Some 50,000 turned out to see the gladiatorial troupe in Casablanca, Oran and Algiers.

If his first effort in Italy is a true criterion, the world's heavyweight king will have been viewed by a cool two million before he heads homeward. He'll be barnstorming in these parts for the next couple of months. In addition to three nights of fistcuffs each week, he and his boys put on a 20-minute skit of wisecracks which would roll them in the aisles if there were any aisles handy.

### A Great Show

The Louis show, sent overseas by the Special Service Division of the War Department, really is good. Naturally, Joe doesn't uncork any of his Sunday punches or the "killed in action" figures would take an immediate jump. Unlike Jack Dempsey, who couldn't pull a punch unless they draped anchors on his arms, Louis has developed into an expert showman.

Louis still displays a dead pan, to be sure. The only time he laughed was when somebody told him Joe Williams, New York sports critic, had been nearly killed when hit on the head by a golf ball. If his face lacks humor, however, his actions in the ring do not. He wows 'em merely by the manner in which he handles half-scared, hopelessly inferior opponents.

In the early days of the tour Joe generally opposed his favorite sparring partner M-Sgt. George Nicholson, or Sgt. Bob Smith, Detroit. This was inclined to become monotonous, however, akin to the Ted Lewis-Jack Britton rivalry. (Lewis and Jack met 17 times.) So Capt. Fred Maly, tour director, adopted the policy of taking on all comers. Of course, it frequently is difficult to find a foe for Louis, his reputation being what it is.

"But we've been pretty lucky," said Capt. Maly. "And the boys of any unit get a big kick when they see their favorite heavyweight trading punches with Joe."

On rare occasions a local heavy needs deflating. Joe handles the job expertly. But generally he clown's his way through two or three rounds, and the boys love it. In his first Italian show two nights ago he slapped with both gloves at once. He faked terrific uppercuts. Now and then he'd dazzle his opponent with his left and coyly spank him on the rear with his right.

### Autograph, Sarge?

Joe's volunteer opponents rarely fail to visit his dressing room before the bouts to obtain his autograph. This was the case with T-4 Louis Hefley, Los Angeles, in the show at Caserta. Hefley, former Golden Glover, hadn't pulled on a glove for six years and his midriff was of the overstuffed variety.

"You won't remember me, Joe," he said, "but I once fought a semi-final to you at Wichita, Kan. I borrowed your razor after the fight, and I still talk about it."

"Well," said Joe, without cracking a smile. "You can borrow it again after this one if you want."

Louis, who was 30 years old last May 13, now groans the beam at 215—ten pounds over his best fighting tonnage. Another new addition is a long, narrow moustache, of which he is extremely proud. In his early professional days he wanted to grow some alfalfa on his upper lip, but it just refused to sprout.

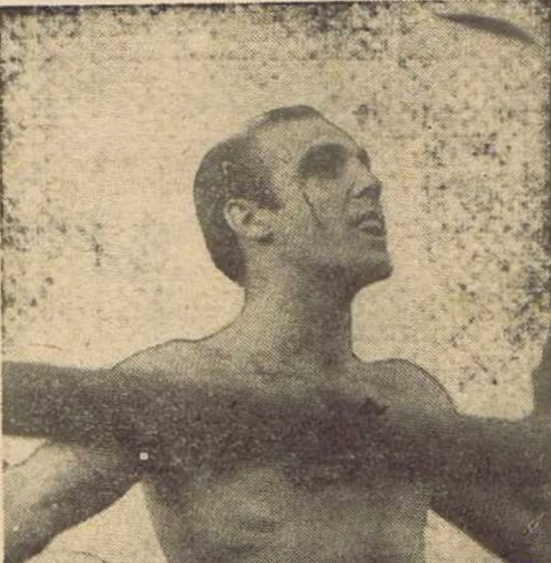
"How come," we asked Louis, "that you put on ten pounds eating C-rations and spam?"

Joe looked surprised. "Them," he demanded, "Oh, I haven't eaten that stuff since I left England."

### Cooney Released

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 — Johnny Cooney, 42-year-old outfielder, has been given his unconditional release by the Yankees, who had signed him June 17 after the Dodgers had let him go.

# Strictly No Buono--Fight Fans' Verdict



Whattaya want from me? . . . G'wan ya big bum, before we lets ya have it!

## Newhouser Defeats White Sox For 17th

NEW YORK, Aug. 7—Hal Newhouser, Detroit southpaw, became the second hurler in the major leagues to win 17 games this season when he beat the White Sox, 5-3, at Chicago last night. Five Chicago errors gave the Tigers five unearned runs and Newhouser his first win over the Pale Hose this year.

The Chisox had previously beaten the young Tiger lefthander three times straight this season, but although they touched him for 11 hits last night, their five errors were too much to overcome.

With the score tied 3-3 in the ninth, an error by rookie shortstop Buddy Michaels, a fielder's choice that failed and an intentional pass filled the bases. Jimmy Outlaw then drilled two runs across with a single to center and that was the ball game. Joe Haynes hurried the first eight innings for the Chisox, but Johnny Humphries took the rap for the loss in the ninth.

The Browns picked up a cheap 9-6 victory over the Indians in a night game at St. Louis as four Tribe errors, three by second baseman Roy Mack contributed five unearned Brownie runs. Two of Mack's miscues were on double-play ground balls.

In the only game played in the National League, the Giants belted Vernon Kennedy, obtained on walk-ers from Cleveland two days ago, from the mound and beat the Phil-ies, 6-5, under the lights at the Polo Grounds.

## Pep Licks Constantino In 10-Round Encounter

WATERBURY, Conn., Aug. 7 — Willie Pep, recognized by N. Y. and Pa. as the world's feather-weight champion, easily outpointed Lulu Constantino of New York in a ten-round, non-title, bout here Saturday night. Pep's left hand completely baffled the New Yorker who suffered the worst beating of his career.

## BASEBALL STANDINGS

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
	W.	L.	Pct.
St. Louis	71	37	.725
Cincinnati	56	42	.567
Pittsburgh	50	48	.532
Chicago	46	47	.495
New York	43	51	.455
Boston	39	54	.418
Brooklyn	40	60	.400
Philadelphia	37	57	.394

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
	W.	L.	Pct.
St. Louis	60	43	.588
Boston	54	47	.535
New York	51	46	.518
Detroit	50	50	.500
Chicago	50	51	.495
Cleveland	51	53	.490
Philadelphia	47	57	.452
Washington	43	58	.426

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Leading Hitters			
	AB.	H.	Pct.
Musial, St. L.	391	143	.363
Walker, B'klyn.	379	135	.356
Hopp, St. L.	322	107	.332
Holmes, Bos.	407	134	.319
Hughes, Chi.	328	102	.315

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Leading Hitters			
	AB.	H.	Pct.
Doerr, Bos.	384	127	.331
Siebert, Phila.	308	101	.328
Fox, Bos.	326	105	.322
Boudreau, Cleve.	388	121	.312
Johnson, Bos.	328	100	.305

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Stolen Bases			
	Plays	Stolen	Pct.
Barrett, Pitt.	14	13	.93
Lupien, Phila.	13	12	.92
Hughes, Chi.	12	11	.92

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Stolen Bases			
	Plays	Stolen	Pct.
Hughson, Bos.	17	5	.29
Maltzberger, Chi.	10	3	.30
Newhouser, Det.	17	6	.35
Borowy, N.Y.	14	5	.36
Ryba, Bos.	9	4	.44

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Leading Pitchers			
	W.	L.	Pct.
Stirnweiss, N. Y.	17	5	.773
Case, Wash.	10	3	.769
Gutteridge, St. L.	16	5	.762

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
Leading Pitchers			
	W.	L.	Pct.
Hughson, Bos.	17	5	.773
Maltzberger, Chi.	10	3	.769
Newhouser, Det.	17	6	.739
Borowy, N.Y.	14	5	.700
Ryba, Bos.	9	4	.692

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Stolen Bases			
	Plays	Stolen	Pct.
Stirnweiss, N. Y.	17	5	.29
Case, Wash.	10	3	.30
Gutteridge, St. L.	16	5	.31

## Seat Furnishings Fly Fast And So Does The Referee

By Sgt. JACK RAYMOND  
Staff Correspondent

ROME, Aug. 7—Enraged roars of "We wuz robbed," rendered in the far from dulcet tones of an Italian citizenry were hurled about the Stadia Nazionale Sunday evening. That wasn't all. Also hurled were seat pillows, chairs, precious lemons, and in one case a perturbed Paesano winged his hat in the ring.

It was evident at the time, however, that he was not a candidate for election—just another of promoter Steve Klaus' cash customers, overtly mortified by the referee's decision in the semi-windup bout of the evening.

## Coast Grid League Viewed As Powerful

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 — For a change, nobody had anything to say today in the big professional football controversy. The National League which had hurled charges of talent-stealing at the American League was silent. The Pacific Coast loop which not only had denied the accusations but publicly flexed its muscles to show it could stand on its own was silent. Not even Roland Pane, president of the newly-formed United States League, made an announcement.

But pro grid fans were thinking hard, chiefly about the American League which seems to have plenty of dough. The league was formed early last month by William (Big Bill) Freelove, Los Angeles, 34-year old president of the National Parts Corps. A player and a fan for many years, Freelove toured the West Coast for backers and came up with an eight-club league with 5,100 dollar franchises apiece.

The Nationals seemed to be glad the new league opened, regarding it paternalistically as a good "minor league" outfit, and agreed to send the Brooklyn Tigers against the Los Angeles Mustangs on September 1. Now the Nationals are squawking they're losing their talent to the Westerners.

## Grid Mentor

NEW YORK, Aug. 7—Lt. Jules Sikes, assistant coach at the University of Georgia before being commissioned in the Navy, will tutor the St. Mary's Preflight football team this season. Sikes was an assistant coach at the school last season.

## SOBRY FOR WINNING

The only one more surprised than Di Jorio, whose own eye was leaking corpuscles, was Proietti, who faced the crowd with a "Whattaya want from me?" expression and apologized for winning. The fans were in no mood for apologies and started throwing. Pillows flew through the air like squared discs. A chair missed Klaus' head by the width of a lire note and only his remarkable catching ability saved an old pug at the ringside from being whacked in the nose by a speeding lemon. The ref disappeared.

The mob whistled, shouted, waved hands, jumped up and down in their seats like a houseful of Henry Armettas, and broad-girthed Pietro Petroselli, editor of the Corriere della Sport, made it a special point to come running over and say—as he held up a defensive elbow—"This is the first time in a quarter of a century of sports writing I've ever seen this happen." Then he ducked under the press table.

## QUIET KLAUS

Poor Klaus didn't say a word, it being wise at the moment to keep one's mouth shut with all that stuff flying around. Things calmed down somewhat with the start of the final bout. But in the sixth round Italo Palmirini, Italian middle-weight champ, knocked Domenico Di Stefano out cold on his feet. The ref—another guy—failed to halt the fight, and Palmirini's next blow to Domenico's jaw might easily have laid him low for all time.

A towel flew into the ring. The bout ended. And once more the pillows began to fly. That's when we escaped.

## Loughran Asks, Receives Discharge From Marines

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7—S-Sgt. Tommy Loughran, 42, has received an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps in which he had enlisted Sept. 25, 1942. Loughran, who had been serving as a physical instructor at the Marine Barracks here, requested the discharge, officials said. Loughran, said he planned on entering private business.

# Cards Lose Ol' Diz And Pennant

(Dizzy Dean, former major league pitching ace, gives the Chicago Daily News' John P. Carmichael an assist in helping him prepare this series. This is the second of four on the trials and tribulations of the "greatest hurler in baseball.")

I got a great kick outta the time I was traded to the Cubs, just before the season opened in '38. I didn't know anything about it until I came in from the bench during a game with the Browns right in St. Louis, spring series, you know. I was walkin' in the clubhouse door and somebody grabbed my arm and it was Clarence Rowland, 'cept I didn't know him then. He said: "Well, Diz you belong to us now. You're a Cub." Hell, I thought he was a fan and kiddin' me and I said:

"I'll see you later, Bud," and I went inside.

Branch Rickey came in and he whispered: "I want to see you in my office after you're dressed," and I said okay. Then he called for silence and said: "We just want to say we've made a deal with the Cubs and we have traded this man here," and he put his arm on my shoulder. He should have put it under me 'cause I thought I'd faint. "We don't want you players to feel we're letting you down, because we've got a man to replace him and we'll still win the pennant."

Well, nobody seemed to know who that man to take my place was, but Pepper Martin, he got up on a chair with a towel around him—he'd just come from the shower—and he made a helluva speech. He sounds like Rickey at that. I'd hate to have to lis-

ten to both of 'em on the same night.

He said: "Mr. Rickey, we appreciate you coming in to tell us what you've done and that we ain't going to be too bad off even if Diz here goes, that you still want us to win a pennant and we're all for you and that we'll win, too."

I knew they couldn't win any ol' pennant without Diz. So when they asked me to say something for the newspapermen, I said, "Well, Mr. Rickey, I predicted we'll win that flag right here in St. Louis, but now that I'm gone, we'll win in Chicago and I'll see you when we get into the World's Series."

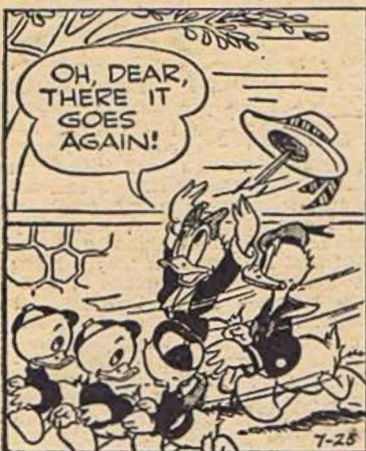
I was right. Chicago wins the flag, even though we back into it. Wonder what Mr. Rickey thought about that?

(The Great Man is going strong, so don't miss tomorrow's episode.)

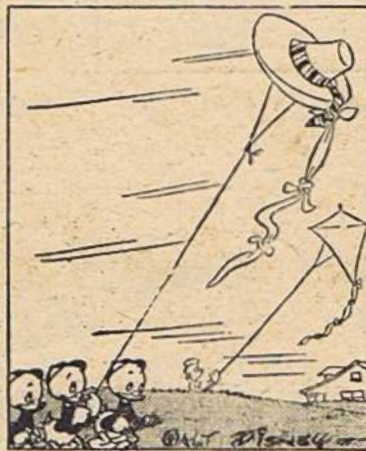


## DONALD DUCK

(Courtesy of King Features)



By WALT DISNEY



## LOST AND FOUND

Malcomb Lowe, manager of the ARC theater Barberini, is holding several money orders made payable to a Mrs. D. Eaton, Amarillo, Texas. The money orders were taken out by Pfc. Wyndle Eaton, who may claim same from Mr. Lowe, at the theater.

On August 5th, two American sergeants spent the night at the Penzione Campanini. One left his watch, a 12 jewel Kalton. The watch is being held by Sig. Campanini for the owner.

If T-Sgt. Harold E. Weston will call by the Lost and Found office, he can have his barracks bag which was left at a nearby airport.

### FOUND

Photo folder, with pay book and ration card, property of Pfc. Michael P. Cooley.

Two photos of young ladies: one is an American, named "Birdie," who hails from Painesville, Ohio; the other is "Elena," a local product.

### LOST

Calf skin wallet, 28 dollars, Army driver's license, at GI rest camp. S-Sgt. Albert R. Knott.

Brown wallet, containing papers and 60 dollars. Pvt. Jenaro Megrano. Black wallet, lost in a peep between Naples and Rome. Pfc. Joe A. C. Williams.

Leather wallet, papers, pictures, social security identification cards, bearing name of Pfc. P. De Lorenzo.

Misplaced at an air evacuation point, clothing containing a wallet, photo album and other personal things belonging to Pfc. Harvey V. Mattson.

Zeiss Ikon camera, loaded with color film. Exposures are in and around the Vatican City. T-Sgt. Victor D. Molitor.

Elgin wrist watch, 17-jewels, gold numerals, white gold case, luminous hands, a white metal link band. Engraved on back: "William W. Long—M.H.S., 1929." This watch was lost to the Hermann Goering outfit. The same unit has since been captured. There may be a chance for recovering the watch which belongs to Pvt. Long.

Pure gold bracelet, which was inscribed: "Harvey R. Gollnick."

Marvel 127 camera, with light meter, range finder. Accidentally left somewhere in Rome. Lt. J. R. Stevenson.

Argo reflex camera, lost at the Atlantico hotel, Lt. Eleanor S. Kirsch.

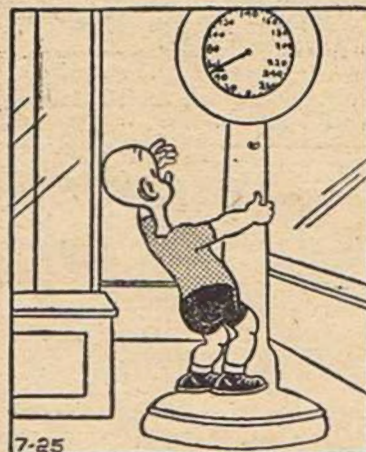
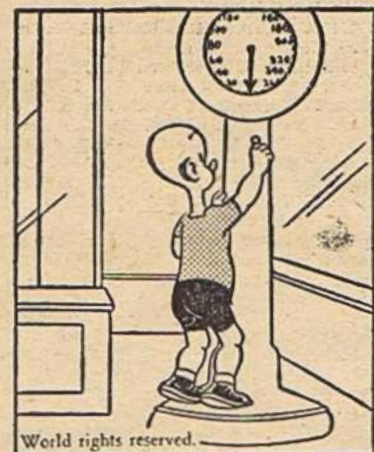
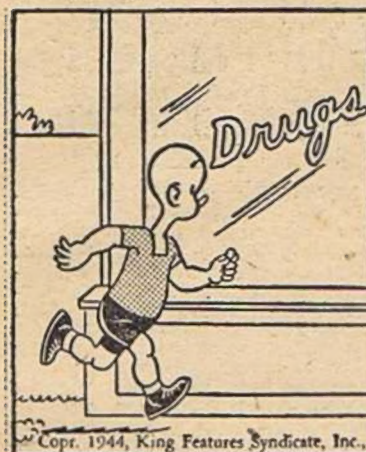
## RADIO PROGRAM

5TH ARMY MOBILE A. E. S.  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8TH

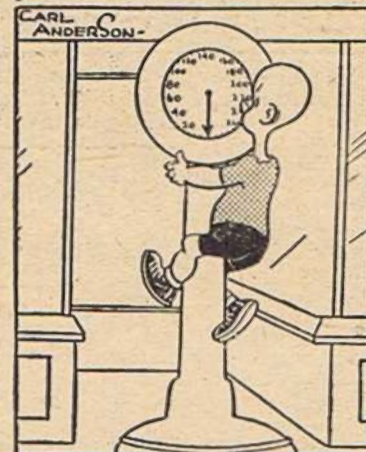
- AM  
6:00—Reveille Reveals  
6:30—News (BBC)  
6:45—Reveille Reveals  
8:00—News (BBC)  
8:15—Sign Off  
10:00—Sound Off  
10:15—Bulletin Board of the Air  
10:30—Tune Tonics  
11:00—Yank Swing Session  
11:30—Melody Round Up  
11:45—Junior's Jiye Session  
12:00—News Highlights  
12:15—Personal Album  
12:30—The Kordettes  
12:45—Ted Steele Novatone's  
1:00—News (BBC)  
1:15—GI Jive  
1:30—Music From America  
2:00—Yarns For Yanks  
2:15—Great Music  
2:30—The Juke Box  
3:00—News (BBC)  
3:15—Sports Interview  
3:30—Allen Roth Orch.  
4:00—Radio News Reel (BBC)  
4:15—Are You A Genius?  
4:30—News (CBS)  
4:45—Songs By Georgia Carroll  
5:00—The Rhythm Club  
5:30—5th Army All-American Dan Band  
6:00—World News (AFHS)  
6:15—Evening Prayer  
6:16—Fred Waring  
6:30—Front Line Theater  
7:00—Fibber McGee and Molly  
7:30—Duffy's Tavern  
8:00—Ole' Oaken Bucket  
9:00—News Highlights  
9:05—Bob Hope  
9:30—Spotlight Bands  
9:45—News  
10:00—Bob Crosby  
10:30—The Nite Stand  
11:30—News  
11:15—Musical Tour  
11:55—News  
12:00—Sign Off

## HENRY

(Courtesy of King Features)

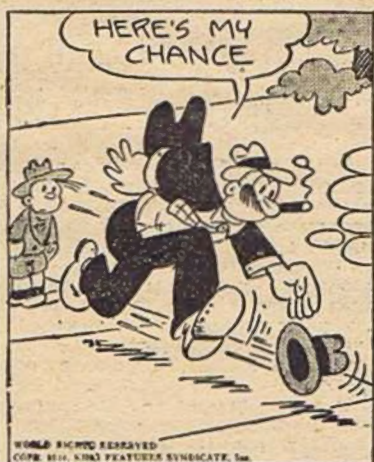


By CARL ANDERSON



## THE FLOP FAMILY

(Courtesy of King Features)



## MAJOR HOOPLE

(Courtesy of NEA)



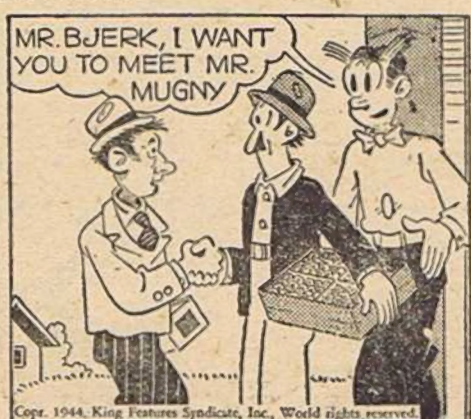
## OUT OUR WAY

(Courtesy of NEA) By WILLIAMS



## BLONDIE

(Courtesy of King Features)



By CHIC YOUNG



## Naval Task Force Sinks 12 Vessels In Pacific Action

PEARL HARBOR, Aug. 7 — A powerful United States task force sank 12 Japanese ships including a large destroyer, five ships of a destroyer escort type, five cargo ships and one oil tanker, and damaged 22 others in fighting last Thursday and Friday off the Bonin and Volcano Islands in the central Pacific, the Navy announced today. A Jap light cruiser and five smaller vessels were listed as "probables."

The American armada in a running two-day battle virtually wiped out a large Jap convoy and its escorting warships. The task force, which included aircraft carriers, also damaged airfields, towns and scores of military installations on the islands, which are located less than 800 miles from the Jap mainland.

The communique reported the destruction of the town of Omura on the largest island of the Bonin-Volcano group, and said that five islands in all were hit in the raid. Six Jap planes were shot out of the air and seven destroyed on the ground. Five others were damaged. Sixteen Yank planes were lost, but there was no mention of damage to any U. S. warships.

The capture of Ukudu and Ligan, towns on Guam Island, was also announced. They fell as a result of an American advance of two miles on the left sector of their front. Jap forces were reported bottled up in the northern tip of the island.

## Eaker Reports MAAF In Complete Control

MAAF HEADQUARTERS, Aug. 7 — The Mediterranean Allied Air Forces have "complete domination of the air above our armies, harbors, ships, supply lines and bases," and "have broken the once proud and arrogant Luftwaffe in our area," Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commanding general of the MAAF, declared last night.

Reporting by radio to General Henry H. Arnold, commander of the USAAF, on the 36th anniversary of the USAAF, General Eaker said that planes of the Tactical 12th Air Force under Maj. Gen. John K. Cannon and the Strategic 15th Air Force under Maj. Gen. Nathan F. Twining had "defeated the Germans in every air battle and have never been turned back from any target by the best the Germans could throw against them."

General Eaker said that the operational struggle activities of the 12th AAF in preparation for the offensive which started on May 12 "cut all the railway lines and the principal roads down the Italian peninsula and reduced the German position so radically that he was unable to resist the Allied advance."

Recalling the part played by the 15th AAF in the assault on Nazi aircraft factories and planes in Europe, General Eaker noted too that the Strategic Air Force had also turned its "terrific power on the vital German oil supply, robbing the enemy of about two-thirds of his petroleum supplies in the Balkans, Hungary and southern Germany."

## Aircraft Production Slice Asked By WPB

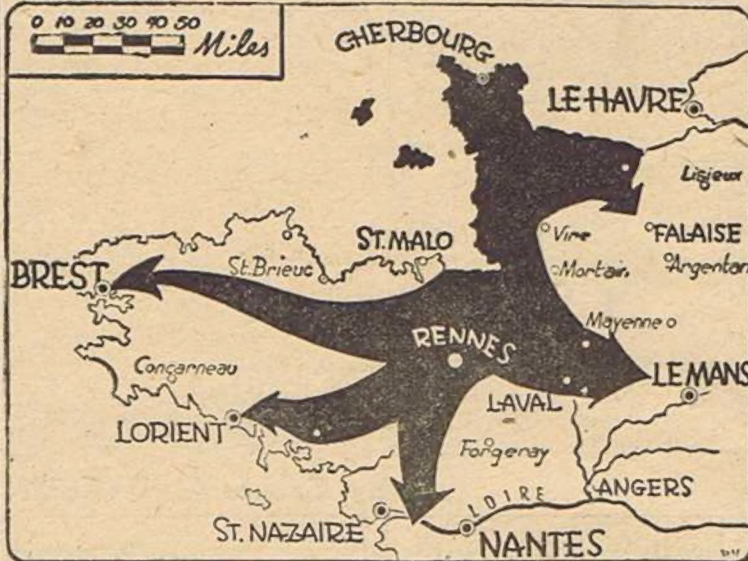
WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 — The War Production Board announced today a three percent reduction in aircraft goals for the year, setting a mark of 100,000 planes, or about 8,274 planes a month. This is below the more than 9,000 delivered in March but higher than the July figure, when the output was nearly 500 behind schedule.

Charles E. Wilson, executive vice chairman of WPB, said the modest cutback would not cause any reduction in employment and was made for "strategic reasons, not because of inability to produce more." He said the new production level would continue "until Germany is brought to her knees."

## Nazi Ace Downed

LONDON, Aug. 7 — The German radio announced last night that Squadron Leader Edwin Thiel, Nazi airman credited with shooting down 76 Allied aircraft, has been shot down in aerial combat.

## GAY PAREE BECKONS



American armored columns are driving east toward Le Mans and Paris and the heart of France. Meanwhile, the Brittany peninsula has been isolated.

## U. S. Armored Columns Lunging Toward Paris

(Continued from page 1)

strength last night and another followed early this morning. The opposition which met the first forces was quickly crushed, and a long, continuous line of British troops scrambled up the eastern banks and wedged their way eastward. They brought along a goodly number of antitank guns. It was significant that the Germans couldn't stem this drive, which threatened to outflank their vital hinge positions south of Caen.

Today's Allied communique reported the capture of high ground at Mont Pincon, four miles south of Aunay, after heavy fighting. British forces had advanced there behind a curtain of rockets fired into German positions by Typhoon fighters. They were also supported by tanks. The Germans had concentrated all possible troops and materiel from nearby sectors for an attempted stand at Mont Pincon, and small, isolated pockets of resistance remained north of the hill.

Reuter's quoted an unidentified staff officer as saying, "There will be all France ahead once we have the enemy out of Mont Pincon." Strong resistance continued in Estray, eight miles northeast of Vire, but the town was by-passed in the Allies' eastward advance.

The situation in the Brest peninsula remained substantially the same except for mopping-up operations. The Germans, cut off by the bolt slammed across the peninsula by 1st Army drives to the Loire and to the coast south of Vannes, were fighting only spasmodically, putting up their stiffest resistance in the outskirts of the two ports of Brest and St. Malo. The isolated remnants of the Nazis' four divisions in Brittany, with no air support and with their transport shattered, were high-tailing toward the coast or surrendering in demoralized droves.

American forces have already taken 12,000 prisoners on the peninsula, including SS Panzer troops. This brings to 85,000 the total number of prisoners taken by Americans since D Day, June 6.

As one American tank force advanced last night on the big naval base at Lorient, trapped German troops there threw in the towel before the battle was joined. There was, however, no official report of Lorient's capture.

RAF Lancasters pestered Lorient with 12,000-pound monster bombs for good measure.

Even escape by the sea was out of the question. One attempt ended in disaster Sunday, when a convoy of seven German vessels, laden with Nazi troops, was destroyed off St. Nazaire by a British-Canadian force of cruisers and destroyers. Another convoy was driven back into port.

American troops have already reached the Atlantic coast on both sides of the big U-boat base at St. Nazaire.

The aerial blitz meanwhile continued unabated. A thousand Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the 8th AAF struck yesterday at German communications and supply lines, including factories and oil storage plants in France and oil refineries, an airdrome and port installations in the Berlin, Hamburg and Kiel areas. Flying-bomb sites in the Pas de Calais got a thorough combing, too. The Germans, staking so much on these sites, were sending up more and more fighters to stave off the attacks.

## LI'L ABNER

(Courtesy of United Features)



## Corney But Wonderful Cherry Sister Act Ends

Stars and Stripes U. S. Bureau

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 — Effie Cherry, last of the famous Cherry sisters, is dead, and so the curtain drops on one of the most famous acts of gas-lit opera house days. The four sisters in their heyday around the turn of the century were so corny in their virtuous maiden play that audiences flocked to throw bouquets at them—vegetable bouquets.

Effie died Saturday at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, after failing to rally from a broken hip suffered last spring. She was reportedly 65 but denied her age to the last.

Her sister Ella died in 1934; Elizabeth in 1936, and Addie in 1942. The oldest sister Jessie, who did not perform in the act, died in 1903.

Old-time theater goers recalled today that everywhere the Cherry sisters performed vegetable and fruit vendors gathered on the outside of the theaters selling antiquated produce to ticket holders. Things got so bad the girls had to play behind a protecting fish net. Still they played their parts straight and corny. After seven years of this the Cherry sisters were able to retire with a small fortune.

They retired with the knowledge theirs was the "worst act in the history of vaudeville," although salt-tongued drama critics are saying the Cherry sisters' title has been seriously challenged since then but failed because of lack of vegetables which are now going mostly to the armed forces.

Upon retirement the sisters ap-

propriately enough went into truck farming near Cedar Rapids and although they toiled long hours were never able to grow more than they had received, observers said.

In 1924 Effie ran for mayor using for her platform doctrines of William Jennings Bryan. She lost. Her second attempt two years later was on the reform platform. She lost.

Effie and Addie made their farewell appearance in a brief tour of the middle west in 1934 and in New York's Gay Nineties nightclub in 1935.

But times had changed and so apparently had peoples' ideas of humor.

## Robot Pen Raids Clip Bomb Terror

LONDON, Aug. 7 — The destruction of 56 flying-bomb storage depots in northern France and the damaging of 44 others has brought about a sharp decrease in the severity of the attacks of aerial torpedoes upon England, the British Air Ministry announced today.

A flying bomb Saturday night killed 11 villagers at work, it was reported, but the actual number coming over has lessened, and the bombs exploded only intermittently Sunday and yesterday. The best the Germans could do was sporadic fire punctuated by fairly long lulls.

Bright weather over the Straits gave the defenders a good score yesterday against the flying torpedoes. Heavy bombers have been raiding the depots regularly, despite the appearance of Nazi fighter planes in increased strength around the installations. The Germans have been using flak towers also to defend them.

RAF Lancasters attacking a bomb depot north of Paris encountered about 30 German fighters.

## SILESIAN OIL

(Continued from page 1)

were strafed by the fighters on both legs of the operation.

Five rail bridges crossing the lower Rhone River in France were included in the targets of the heavy bombers yesterday and several fires were left burning by other Liberators which slashed at the submarine pens at the naval base of Toulon. Flying Forts attacked the rail yards five miles south of Valence and hits were recorded on the choke point and roundhouse. A number of oil storage areas in the Rhone Valley also were bombed with good results.

Marauders of the Tactical Air Force swept north of Marseilles to strike at other bridges in southern France.

Fighter bombers also attacked railways and roads in northern and northwestern Italy, hit one bridge and knocked out the approaches to four others. Rail lines between Ferrara and Bologna and Prato and Bologna were reported cut.

In other MAAF operations yesterday, Hurricanes left an 80-foot schooner sinking in the Adriatic while Wellingtons bombed barges in the Gulf of Genoa. A large warehouse, two barges and rail equipment were damaged in sweeps over Yugoslavia.

Meanwhile, creation of the Balkans Air Force as a composite group of the MAAF was announced in London. Commanded by Air Vice Marshal William Elliot, formerly in charge of RAF operations at Gibraltar, its purpose is the centralization of air operations in the Balkans, excluding strategic bombing, and the intensification of operations in the Adriatic.

## 10,000 Planes Span Route Over Siberia

EDMONTON, Can., Aug. 7 — Over the long secret Canadian-Alaskan-Siberian air ferrying route, nearly 10,000 airplanes displaying the Soviet insignia have been dispatched to Russia in the past three years under United States lend-lease arrangements, it was disclosed today by the Canadian Press.

During the first four months of this year, 2,200 planes flown by U. S. ferry pilots of the air transport command were rushed from American factories to the Russian front, it was reported. They winged 1,600 miles from Great Falls, Mont., through Edmonton to Fairbanks, Alaska. Soviet flyers relayed them to Nome and into Siberia. Russian women pilots played a prominent role.

## New Zealand GI Wives And Tots Come To U. S.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 7 — Sixteen war brides and three babies from New Zealand arrived here last night eager to see their American husbands and families and curious about American life.

The brides and babies were notified about their trip to America three hours before they sailed from Auckland. All three babies gained several pounds on the trip which was uneventful.

## General Hume Receives Cluster For AMG Work

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7 — Brig. Gen. Edgar Erskine Hume has been awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of his outstanding work as chief of the Allied Military Government of the 5th Army in Italy, the War Department announced last night.

By AL CAPP.